

Application No.: 10/669,204

Attorney Docket No.: NIDSNZ00101

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the claims

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (new): A method for altering flow through a biological valve having an annulus, the method comprising:

transferring energy to the annulus to heat the annulus; and
cinching the annulus.

12. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein the valve comprises a cardiac valve

13. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein the cinching comprises implanting a cinching member.

14. (new): The method of Claim 13, wherein the cinching member comprises a transducer.

15. (new): The method of Claim 14, wherein transferring energy comprises transferring energy with the transducer.

16. (new): The method of Claim 13, wherein the cinching member has a first shape during a delivery to the annulus and a second shape after the delivery.

17. (new): The method of Claim 13, wherein the cinching member comprises a central region and two anchoring regions on opposing ends of the central region, wherein each anchoring region is configured to be anchored to opposing areas of tissue against or adjacent to the annulus and urge the areas of tissue towards one another;

18. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein transferring energy comprises modifying the geometry of the annulus.

19. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein transferring energy comprises transferring RF energy.

20. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein transferring energy comprises transferring microwave energy.

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- 21. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein transferring energy comprises transferring ultrasound energy.
- 22. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein transferring energy comprises transferring laser energy.
- 23. (new): The method of Claim 11, wherein transferring energy comprises using a heating element.
- 24. (new): The method of Claim 11, further comprises deploying a chemical to the annulus.
- 25. (new): The method of Claim 24, wherein the chemical comprises aldehydes.